



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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| Applicant(s): | Walke <i>et al.</i> | Group Art Unit: | 1647 |
| Application No.: | 09/981,318 | Examiner: | S. Gucker |
| Filed: | October 17, 2001 | | |
| Title: | Novel Human Semaphorin Proteins and Polynucleotides Encoding the Same | Atty. Docket No.: | LEX-0255-USA |

AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION
DATED DECEMBER 7, 2004

Commissioner for Patents
Alexandria, VA 22313

Sir:

Applicants acknowledge the receipt of the Office Action ("the Action") mailed on December 7, 2004, which has been carefully reviewed and studied. The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the following amendments. Reexamination and reconsideration of the application is requested in view of the following amendments and remarks. In order to facilitate the Examiner's evaluation of the application, Applicants have attempted to address the objections and rejections in the Action in the same order in which they were originally raised.

A Petition for an Extension of Time of one month to and including April 7, 2005 and authorization to deduct the fee as required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a)(1) from Applicants' representatives Deposit Account are included. The response is thus timely filed. Applicants believe no fees in addition to the fee for the extension of time are due in connection with this response. However, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 50-0892.